



Community Development Block Grant Planning-Only Grant Program

Local Government Division

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning-Only Grants (POG) support eligible Washington State communities in carrying out planning activities that lead to the implementation of priority projects that principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

The Washington State CDBG Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of the state CDBG Program is to improve and maintain the economic and physical environment of eligible, non-entitlement cities and counties in order to enhance the quality of life for low- and moderate-income residents and, as a result, benefit the entire community.

Funds Available

A fund of \$500,000 is available in 2006. Planning grants are limited to \$24,000 for a single applicant or \$40,000 for a joint application involving two or more eligible jurisdictions that share a common planning need.

Applications meeting all the criteria listed below may be funded at an upper limit of \$35,000 for a single applicant or \$50,000 for a joint application involving two or more eligible jurisdictions that share a common planning need.

- The proposed project is to address a public health and safety issue;
- The proposed project is required by a regulatory agency (i.e. Department of Health or Department of Ecology)
- The community is facing financial hardship in addressing the issue; and,
- Other funding has been considered (such a Public Works Trust Fund Loan).

Projects will be funded on a first-come, first-serve basis until funds have been fully used. Additional monies from the CDBG Contingency Fund may be used for priority projects on a funds available basis.

Eligibility Guidelines

- Eligible applicants are Washington State cities and towns with less than 50,000 in population or counties with less than 200,000 in population that are non-entitlement jurisdictions or are not participants in a HUD Urban County Entitlement Consortium.
- Non-profit organizations, Indian tribes, and special purpose organizations such as public housing authorities, port districts, community action agencies, and economic development councils, are not eligible to apply directly to the CDBG Program for funding. However, eligible jurisdictions may choose to serve Indian tribes within their jurisdiction or to involve the other organizations in the operation of projects funded under the program.
- Projects must principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Low- and moderate-income is defined as 80 percent of county median income.

For More Information

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Applications must meet one of the following program priorities:

- To address public health and safety issues
- To improve essential services to low- and moderate-income persons
- To complete a necessary and specific step within a broader community development strategy
- To assist communities in meeting the planning requirements that will principally benefit low- and moderate-income persons

Application Process

- Submit a POG pre-application.
- Pre-application is reviewed for eligible and priority activities, and meeting a CDBG national objective.
- An internal CTED Resource Team reviews the POG pre-application.
- If project is determined to be viable, ready to proceed and CDBG is an appropriate source of funding, the community is invited to submit full POG application.
- Full application will summarize the need, capacity, readiness and results.
- To meet federal requirements, a full application must also contain documentation of meeting a CDBG national objective and compliance with citizen participation requirements.